

AMENDED CLAIMS

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original claims 1-15 replaced by amended claims 1-14 (2 pages)]**

1. A radial or crossflow media filter comprising a housing containing filter media, a contaminated flow inlet and a discharge outlet, the contaminated flow inlet comprising a manifold situated within the housing, the manifold having a flow outlet which directs flow laterally, away from the discharge outlet, and a discharge chamber situated within the housing upstream of the discharge outlet, the discharge chamber containing a second filter media which is of a larger average particle size than the rest of the filter media in the housing.
2. A filter as claimed in claim 1 in which the flow outlet is directed towards a sidewall of the housing.
3. A filter as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the manifold is provided with a plurality of flow outlets.
4. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the housing comprises a vessel or tank.
5. A filter as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which the flow inlet comprises a substantially vertically aligned elongate manifold with a plurality of flow distribution outlets disposed along its length.
6. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the discharge chamber surrounds the discharge outlet.
7. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the discharge chamber is formed from a filter screen.
8. A filter as claimed in claim 7 in which the filter screen tapers inwardly towards the bottom of the housing.

9. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which a fluidising unit is provided in the base of the housing to fluidise the filter media and contaminants.
10. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which a fluidising unit is provided in the discharge chamber to fluidise the filter media and contaminants in the discharge chamber.
11. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising a tubular ultrasonic unit.
12. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising a heating unit.
13. A filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising means for applying AC or DC current and/or magnetic force to the filter media and/or contaminants present in the filter media and/or fluid being filtered.
14. A filter substantially as described herein with reference to and as shown in figures 2 and 3, figure 4, figure 5, figure 6 or figure 7 of the accompanying drawings.

STATEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 19 (1)

Claim 1 has been amended by including the feature of originally filed claim 6, namely a discharge chamber which is situated within the housing upstream of the discharge outlet, which contains a second filter media having a larger average particle size than the rest of the filter media in the housing. The larger particulate material used for filtering in the discharge chamber inhibits loss of finer media to the clean water discharge outlet, and also prevents blockage of clean water collection screens, which typically may comprise small slots or holes.

The features of claim 1, as amended, are not disclosed in any of the prior art documents found to date, furthermore, the use of a second filter media having a larger particulate size than the first filter media is contrary to known filtering techniques, in which the particulate size of the filter media decreases in the downstream direction.